

Message Text

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PAGE 01 EC BRU 01951 261239Z

63

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 EB-07 AGR-05 STR-04 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 COME-00 FRB-03 INR-07 NSAE-00 CIEP-01 SP-02

TRSE-00 LAB-04 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 L-03 H-02 USIA-06 /095 W

----- 016788

R 261207Z FEB 76

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 607

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 1735

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

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PASS AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, EEC

SUBJECT: NEW ZEALAND'S POSITION ON THE NFDM PROBLEM

REF STATE 45124

1. WE TRANSMITTED THE VIEWS CONTAINED IN THE REFTEL TO THE DCM OF THE NEW ZEALAND MISSION. HE GAVE US THE FOLLOWING ADDITIONAL BACKGROUND ON THE INFORMATION REPORTED IN THE REFTEL.

2. WHEN NEW ZEALAND DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS TALBOYS MET WITH LARDINOIS FEB 4-5, TALBOYS TOLD LARDINOIS THAT THE NEW ZEALAND DAIRY BOARD WANTED TO WITHDRAW FROM THE UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN NEW ZEALAND AND THE EC ON EXPORT PRICES FOR NFDM. LARDINOIS REPORTEDLY OBJECTED STRENUOUSLY, SAYING THAT SUCH AN ACTION WOULD UNLEASH A PRICE WAR WHICH WOULD HAVE THE EFFECT OF DROPPING WORLD MARKET PRICES FOR NFDM RIGHT TO THE BOTTOM. LARDINOIS EXPLAINED TO TALBOYS THAT HE HAD

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PAGE 02 EC BRU 01951 261239Z

ACCEPTED THE NEW ZEALAND DAIRY BOARD'S SUGGESTION TO PUSH MORE

NFDM THROUGH ANIMAL FEED CHANNELS AND THAT HE WAS WORKING HARD TO HELP ELIMINATE THE EC SURPLUS THROUGH THE PROPOSED MIXING REGULATION. HE CONCLUDED BY SAYING THAT THE EC COMMISSION NEEDS AND ASKS FOR SUPPORT FOR THIS REGULATION FROM THE GONZ.

3. TALBOYS AND LARDINOIS THEN DISCUSSED THE MEANS FOR OBTAINING THIS SUPPORT. THE DISCUSSIONS WERE INCONCLUSIVE BUT COVERED SUCH MEANS AS INSTRUCTIONS TO GONZ REPRESENTATIVES IN THE 9 CAPITALS TO PERSUADE THEIR HOST GOVERNMENTS TO SUPPORT THE COMMISSION'S PROPOSED MIXING REGULATION, AND SIMILAR INSTRUCTIONS TO GONZ MISSIONS IN WASHINGTON AND IN THE GATT. WITH REGARD TO THE GATT, IT WAS NOT CLEAR, ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCE, HOW OR IN WHAT FASHION THE MESSAGE COULD BE GOTTEN ACROSS. LARDINOIS SAID THAT HE WOULD ALSO LIKE A PUBLIC STATEMENT BY THE GONZ TO THIS EFFECT.

4. OUR SOURCE SAID THAT THEY HAD LEARNED SUBSEQUENTLY FROM USEC AND FROM THEIR EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON THAT US OBJECTIONS TO THE EC MIXING REGULATION ARE IN FACT STRONGER THAN THEY HAD BEEN LED TO BELIEVE BY LARDINOIS AND OTHER COMMISSION OFFICIALS. CONSEQUENTLY, THE GONZ IS NOT LIKELY TO MAKE A PUBLIC STATEMENT OF SUPPORT.

5. THE MEETING OF DAIRY BOARD OFFICIALS WITH LARDINOIS, MENTIONED IN REFTEL, IS SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE DURING MARCH 10-11. HINTON

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DAIRY PRODUCTS, EXPORT PRICES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 FEB 1976
Decapton Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976ECBRU01951
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760073-0026
From: EC BRUSSELS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760211/aaaaaijz.tel
Line Count: 87
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 45124
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 MAR 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <31 MAR 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <06 JUL 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NEW ZEALAND'S POSITION ON THE NFDM PROBLEM
TAGS: EAGR, ETRD, EEC, NEW ZEALAND DAIRY BOARD
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006